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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: Benjamin E. Lanier  
HIROSHI KOGA )  
: Group Art Unit: 2132  
Application No.: 09/987,833 )  
:   
Filed: November 16, 2001 )  
:   
For: AUTOMATIC AUTHENTICATION )  
METHOD AND SYSTEM IN PRINT )  
PROCESS ) January 30, 2006 (Monday)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the listed documents is enclosed.

- (1) JPA 09-048165
- (2) JPA 09-185474
- (3) JPA 2000-035871

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 30, 2006 (Monday)  
(Date of Deposit)

Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No. 42,746)  
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

 January 30, 2006 (Monday)  
Signature Date of Signature

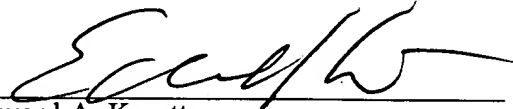
These documents were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated October 28, 2005 in a Japanese application corresponding to the above-identified application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action together with an English-language translation is enclosed herewith.

English-language abstracts for each of the foregoing Japanese documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. A concise explanation of relevance for each of the non-English language documents is believed to be provided by the English language abstracts. See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as this application has received an action on the merits, but has not yet received any of a final action, a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the merits, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c). Accordingly, in view of the date of the Japanese Office Action, Applicant hereby submits that each item of information cited in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office for a corresponding foreign application not more than three months before the filing of this IDS. Therefore, consideration of the art cited herein is deemed proper and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner make an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that the information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and to return the initialed form to Applicant with the next communication.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Kmett', written over a horizontal line.

Edward A. Kmett  
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